

Indicator 21: Asthma among Adults Caused or Made Worse By Work (Unable to Report)

Significanceⁱ

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease of the airways that affects more than 18 million adults in the United States. Work-related asthma is a term used to describe asthma that has a temporal association between asthma symptoms and the work environment.

Methods

This indicator is calculated using data from the Asthma Call-Back Survey (ACBS). Colorado does not participate in the ACBS; thus, state-level data for this indicator are not available.

The ACBS is an in-depth asthma survey developed and funded by the Air Pollution and Respiratory Health Branch (APRHB) in the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH). It is conducted with the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey (BRFSS) respondents who report an asthma diagnosis.

Recommendations and Next Steps

- Continue to explore opportunities for Colorado to participate in the ACBS.
- Explore alternate methods for a reporting a similar indicator using data available in Colorado, such as work-related hospitalizations or emergency department visits for asthma diagnoses.

ⁱ Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. *Occupational Health Indicators: A Guide for Tracking Occupational Health Conditions and Their Determinants*. Last updated March 2014.